

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust Seeks National Accreditation

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (April 12, 2013) – The Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust is pleased to announce it is applying for national accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance. A public comment period is now open.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever.

The Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust was created by ordinance in 1997 and its nine-member Oversight Board advises Louisville Metro Government on land conservation issues including offers of conservation easements from private land owners. The Trust holds conservation easements on 882 acres of private land in Louisville and Oldham County and works closely with the Louisville Landmarks Commission staff to oversee preservation easements on seven historic properties.

The Trust's nine-member Oversight Board consists of five citizens and four members who represent government agencies responsible for public land. The Trust's staff is housed at Louisville Metro Parks. For more information about the Trust:

<http://www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroParks/planninganddesign/EnvironmentalTrust.htm>

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs. The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how the Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards see

<http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/tips-and-tools/indicator-practices>.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit

www.landtrustaccreditation.org or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org.

Comments may also be faxed or mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments: (fax) 518-587-3183; (mail) 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Comments on the Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust's application will be most useful by June 1, 2013.